

RELEASING COVID-19 CASES AND CONTACTS FROM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE 10/9/2020

CASES

<u>Must</u> be isolated for a <u>minimum</u> of 10 days* after symptom onset (or specimen collection date if asymptomatic) and can be released when the following criteria are met:

 Case is afebrile (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 24 hours and with improvement of COVID-19 symptoms

Time-based Strategy for Release from Isolation

Onset Date

Minimum 10 days

(or specimen collection date if onset unclear or if asymptomatic)

+ afebrile and symptoms resolving for at least 24 hours. Case released

from

isolation

Date of symptom onset or specimen collection date (if asymptomatic) is counted as Day 0.

OR

Case has 2 negative COVID-19 PCR tests in a row, with specimens collected and testing done at least 24 hours apart
 A test-based strategy is no longer recommended in the majority of cases.
 Consult with infectious disease physician.

*A limited number of persons with <u>severe illness</u> or who are <u>severely immunosuppressed</u> may produce replication-competent virus beyond 10 days; this may warrant extending duration of isolation and precautions for **up to 20** days after symptom onset or first positive test (if no symptoms).

Consult with the infectious disease physician.

For hospitalized cases and discontinuing transmission-based precautions, see:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-hospitalized-patients.html

CLOSE CONTACTS¹

- <u>Must</u> be quarantined for 14 days after the last/most recent contact with the case when the case was infectious.
- If a close contact develops symptoms, they should follow isolation rules for cases.

Contact Scenario		Quarantine Period	
•	Has close contact with someone who	•	14 days from the date of last close contact
	has COVID-19 and will not have		
	further close contact		
•	Has close contact with someone who	•	14 days from when the person with COVID-19
	has COVID-19 and lives with the case		began home isolation away from other
	but can avoid further close contact		members of the household
•	Is under quarantine and had additional	•	Restart quarantine from the last day close
	close contact with someone else who		contact occurred with anyone who has COVID-
	has COVID-19		19. Any time a new household member gets
			sick with COVID-19 and close contact occurs,
			quarantine will need to be restarted.
•	Lives with someone who has COVID-	•	Quarantine for 14 days after the person who
	19 and cannot avoid continued close		has COVID-19 meets the criteria to end home
	contact (e.g., shared		isolation (see Cases information).
	kitchen/bathroom)		

¹ For COVID-19, a <u>close contact</u> is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

Guidance for Healthcare Worker Contacts:

 $\frac{https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html}{https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html}$

Guidance for Critical Workers in Essential Infrastructure:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/critical-workers/implementing-safety-practices.html

References

- **Isolation**: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/duration-isolation.html
- Quarantine: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html